

01 May 2013

Delivered by email and post

Development Plans Manager

South Lakeland District Council
South Lakeland House
Lowther Street
Kendal
LA9 4DL

Dear Sirs

UPDATED PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF MAIN MODIFICATIONS TO THE LOCAL PLAN - LAND ALLOCATIONS DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT

On behalf of our client, Sainsbury's Supermarkets Ltd ("Sainsbury's"), we have reviewed the updated Proposed Schedule of Main Modifications to the South Lakeland Land Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD) and would like to take this opportunity to comment.

Ref. MM02 – Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development

Sainsbury's welcomes the inclusion of an additional policy which reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development enshrined within the National Planning Policy Framework ("the Framework").

The proposed wording of Policy LA1.0 is consistent with the aims of the Framework and the model wording provided by the Planning Inspectorate. In particular, the policy will ensure that the DPD satisfies Paragraph 15 of the Framework which states:

"Policies in Local Plans should follow the approach of the presumption in favour of sustainable development so that it is clear that development which is sustainable can be approved without delay. All plans should be based upon and reflect the presumption in favour of sustainable development, with clear policies that will guide how the presumption should be applied locally."

Sainsbury's particularly welcomes the Council's confirmation that they will:

- have regard to the employment benefits of uses which fall outside the employment use classes when considering development in employment areas and employment sites;
- take a flexible approach to high quality enabling development where it can be shown to be essential to the delivery of employment sites and premises where compatible with the overall vision for the site and where compatible with maintaining the District's supply of employment land and premises; and
- adopt a flexible approach to the phasing of development which allows for development to take place in advance of the phasing identified in the plan where infrastructure and site planning issues can be resolved.

This modification reflects Sainsbury's previous representations to the Land Allocations DPD submitted in July 2012 and will help to ensure that sustainable economic development is brought forward in the District.

I trust that these representations will be passed on to the Inspector for consideration as part of the examination into the Land Allocations DPD. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

Anna Noble
Planner